



## TENNESSEE FARMERS COOPERATIVE **NEWS RELEASE**

**For Immediate Release**

**March 18, 2021**

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### **Tennessee Farmers Cooperative announces senior staff appointments**

(*La Vergne, Tenn.*) Tennessee Farmers Cooperative Chief Executive Officer Shannon Huff has announced the appointment of Kirk Fischer as the cooperative's new chief financial officer and Phillip Farmer as chief operating officer, effective immediately.

"Both Fischer and Farmer bring important expertise and experience to their new roles and their efforts will be crucial as we follow the strategic direction for increased cooperation through the joint venture strategy and continue to enhance TFC's value to our member Co-ops and contract customers," says Huff.

Fischer has served as internal auditor since March 2016. He joined TFC in 2003 as a corporate accountant, then transitioned to senior regional accountant in 2013, a role he held until being appointed internal auditor. He holds a master's degree in Accounting and a bachelor's in Business Administration from Middle Tennessee State University. He is a certified public accountant and a member of the Institute of Internal Auditors.

Fischer was born in Peru, Ind., and grew up in nearby Rochester, graduating from Rochester High School in 1998. He and his wife, Jaime, a former employee of TFC Risk Management, live in Murfreesboro. They have four children, Audrey, 19, who is attending Motlow Community College to become a paramedic; Wyatt, 9; and twins Wes and Theo, 3.

Farmer was named TFC chief marketing officer in January 2019. He brings more than 25 years of experience in business leadership, strategic thinking, planning, marketing, and business developments to his new role. He is the leader, entrepreneur, and founder of FLM Harvest, a strategic consulting, marketing and communications agency and The Farmer Group Ltd.

Farmer has transformed the marketing and communications efforts of TFC for core business units, member Co-ops, and joint ventures while reducing administrative overhead. He has totally revamped TFC's digital presence.

Farmer grew up on a corn, soybean, wheat, and cattle farm in northern Ohio. He holds a bachelor's degree from The Ohio State University.

Farmer has two children, Rory, 19, a freshman at Bowling Green State University, and Quinten, 16, a sophomore in high school. He and his fiancé, Tammy Eckhart, plan to marry on May 14, and they will reside in Mt. Juliet.

Co-op is recognized as one of the strongest federated farm supply cooperative systems in the nation, and includes Tennessee Farmers Cooperative (TFC) and the 47 member Co-ops and 11 associate members in neighboring states that own TFC. At the very foundation are the roughly 70,000 farmers who are member-owners of the local Co-ops in their home counties. Some 164 Co-op retail outlets, which operate in 84 of Tennessee's 95 counties, and across the border in five neighboring states, serve more than half a million customers. Learn more at [www.ourcoop.com](http://www.ourcoop.com).

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